THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

KOUJI SEO

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#68 I'm Not Joking

KIKU-CHAN AND AKANE-CHAN!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

NGH...

YOU'RE THE WORST! YOU FORGOT ABOUT BOTH OF THEM!

AND YOU EVEN WENT WITH AKANE-CHAN, WHOSE BIRTHDAY IS TODAY.

I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU WENT, HAYACCHI! SO YOU WENT TO BUY A PRESENT FOR SHIRAGIKU-SAN.

I WAS A LITTLE PISSED OFF, THOUGH.

I'M OKAY, REALLY.

I'M SORRY... WHAT WITH THAT NEW RIVAL STORE OPENING, AND THEN HAVING 11 PEOPLE LIVING IN THE SAME HOUSE, EVERYTHING WAS SO HECTIC.

I REALLY DID REMEMBER UNTIL THEN, THOUGH.

IT'S OKAY, HONESTLY, I'M NOT MAD.

I'M JUST GLAD YOU REMEMBERED IN THE END.

EVEN IF YOU MAKE EXCUSES, IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT YOU FORGOT.

BUT I'M HAPPY YOU GOT ME A PRESENT, AT LEAST?

YOU ARE MAD, AREN'T YOU?

NOT AT ALL!! I'M NOT MAD!

HM?

...

HM?

...

OF COURSE SHE'S MAD.

COLD

...

HEY.

WHAT A TERRIBLE MANAGER YOU ARE!

YOU REMEMBERED MY BIRTHDAY, EVEN THOUGH WE WERE SO BUSY!

YOU...

DIDN'T YOU, HAYATO?

HAYATO SAID WE CAN ASK HIM FOR ONE THING SO HE CAN MAKE IT UP TO US.

SO WHAT DID YOU ASK HIM FOR, AKANE-CHAN?

REALLY ?!

UH... WELL...

HM?

I ASKED HIM TO MARRY ME.

I CAN'T BELIEVE OUR KIKU-CHAN, WHO WAS SO SHY, CAN NOW MAKE JOKES LIKE THAT.

HOW MOVING.

ME TOO!! LET'S GET MARRIED, HAYACCHI!!

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, AMI-CHAN.

...

AH.. THEN I WANT THAT TOO!

...

I'M NOT JOKING.

OH... THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT! YOU'RE GOING TO BE FORCED INTO MARRIAGE...

SO YOU WANT ME TO PRETEND TO BE YOUR BOYFRIEND, RIGHT?

WELL, JUST THINK IT OVER, OKAY?

WELL... MARRYING YOU...

AND EVEN IF THAT WAS TRUE...

OF COURSE NOT.

OH... RIGHT...

...THERE'S NO WAY I'D ASK THE PERSON I ACTUALLY LIKE TO DO THAT.

...

RIGHT!!

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

...

STARTING TODAY, WE'LL BE WEARING OUR CHRISTMAS UNIFORMS!!

SO ANSWER ME PROPERLY.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

STOP SAYING THESE STUPID THINGS.

I SAID JUST DO YOUR WORK.

I TOLD YOU I'M SERIOUS ABOUT THIS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "STUPID"?

THE NEW SANTA COSTUME!

DOES IT SUIT HER?

HUH ...?

HEY, HAYATO-KUN! ANSWER HER PROPERLY.

SHE'S ASKING YOU A SERIOUS QUESTION!

I PROPOSED TO HAYATO!

IF HE'S A MAN, HE'D BETTER ANSWER ME!

WELL...

*KO Propo is the name of a brand that makes radio-controlled car transmitters, so "propo" is also used as the Japanese word for radio-controlled toys in general.

...

YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT THIS.

YOU ASKED HIM FOR A PROPO*?

LIKE THOSE TRANSMITTERS FOR RADIO-CONTROLLED CARS?

WHAT?

THIS JUST PROVES MY POINT.

WE'RE TRYING TO HAVE A SERIOUS DISCUSSION HERE.

SHUT UP, OUKA.

...THEY'RE NOT SOMETHING TO DISCUSS AT WORK.

MARRIAGE, MARRIAGE PROPOSALS...

GET BACK TO WORK !!

WHA?! WHAT'S THIS?!

ARE YOU SAYING YOU MEANT WHAT YOU SAID YES-TERDAY?!

WELL ...

MARR...

...IAGE?

... THAT'S ...

... TRUE, BUT...

SLAM

UH...

WEL-
COME...

HUH...?

GRAB

STOMP

STOMP

UH...

WHAT?!

WAI...HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!

THAT HURTS!!

...

FSHH

HEY, WHO ARE YOU GUYS?!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING WITH AKANE?!

SLUMP

H...
HAYATO!!

STOMP

STOMP

SLAM

...

WHAT ...?

UH...

THEY ABDUCTED THEM...?

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

WHAT?!

AMI-CHAAAN!! HELP!!

THEY TOOK AKANE-CHAN AND HAYATO-KUN!!

Familia

CAFÉ TERRACE

NGH...

...

AKANE!!

WHERE THE HELL...

HAYA-TO...

ARE YOU OKAY?

?!

WH... WHERE AM I?!

WHY'RE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT...?

WHAT ...?

THIS IS MY HOUSE.

HAVE YOU FINALLY WOKEN UP?

I MUST APOLOGIZE.

I DID TELL THEM NOT TO BE TOO ROUGH WITH YOU...

I AM THE PRESENT HEAD OF THE HOUOUJI FAMILY.

MY NAME IS YOKO HOUOUJI.

WHAT...?

#69 Two Questions

I'M THE MANAGER OF CAFÉ TERRACE FAMILIA,

HAYATO KASUKABE.

WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON HERE?

I BROUGHT YOU HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE THE OWNER OF THE STORE WHERE MY GRANDDAUGHTER WORKS...

SO I WISHED TO GREET YOU PROPERLY.

...

IF THAT WAS THE CASE, IF YOU HAD TOLD ME...

I COULD HAVE PREPARED A GIFT FOR YOU.

...

...I'M SORRY.

GRAND-MOTHER CAN BE A LITTLE PUSHY SOME-TIMES.

A LITTLE?! WHAT SHE'S DONE IS A CRIME.

WHAT ...?

THAT FACE... THAT EX-PRESSION...

THE WAY YOU TALK...

WHEN MY DAUGHTER TOLD ME YOUR NAME, I DIDN'T THINK IT COULD BE POSSIBLE...

BUT YOU KNOW, THERE REALLY IS SUCH A STRONG RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THAT MAN...

AND THE WAY THAT YOU...

...SEDUCE WOMEN.

WHAT?

HEY...

I SAID THAT HURTS!

SLAP

SLAP

WAS THIS THE HAND YOU USED? TO MAKE A PASS AT MY GRAND-DAUGHTER?

GRAND-MOTHER!!

SMACK

THAT HURTS!!

SORRY, HAYATO. THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.

HUH ...?

YESTERDAY MY GRAND-MOTHER PHONED TO WISH ME A HAPPY BIRTH-DAY...

I JUST HAPPENED TO BRING UP THE FACT THAT THERE WAS SOMEONE I WANTED TO MARRY.

THEN SHE TOLD ME TO BRING YOU HERE...BUT I REFUSED... AND...WELL...

...SO...

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

DO YOU WISH TO MARRY AKANE?

IT'S ONLY NATU-RAL.

YOU ARE THE PRECIOUS HEIR TO THE HOUOUJI FAMILY, YOU KNOW?

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO DO ALL THIS...

...

AMI-CHAN, PUT ME DOWN!!

WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?! YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO SAW THE PERPETRATORS' FACES, OUKA-SAN, YOU HAVE TO COME WITH ME!!

WHERE ARE THEY, WHERE ARE THEY?! THE GUYS WHO TOOK HAYACCHI AND AKANE-SAN!!

JUST LOOK AROUND YOU!!

NO!!

OH, IS THIS TO PROMOTE THE CAFÉ?

THEN AT LEAST LET ME GET CHANGED!!

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT!!

I CAN'T...

SAY THAT I DON'T...

...BUT I ALSO CAN'T PROMISE ANYTHING.

...I SEE.

I UNDER-STAND THAT YOU HAVE FOUR OTHER GIRLS WORKING FOR YOU.

DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU WISH TO TRY EACH OF THEM BEFORE MAKING YOUR DECISION?

...

NO, IT DOES NOT.

KER-CHAK

IS THAT SO?

THEN LET'S CHANGE THE QUESTION, SHALL WE?

WHAT?

SHIIING

HEY-

WHAT ARE YOU-

GRAND-MOTHER!!

...

IF ONE DAY A SITUATION AROSE IN WHICH YOU COULD ONLY SAVE YOURSELF OR AKANE...

...WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

酒 たばこ

I DON'T REALLY MIND.

I WAS JUST A LITTLE SURPRISED.

I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT TODAY...

YOU HAD TO GO THROUGH ALL OF THAT BECAUSE OF ME...

WON'T YOU THINK I'M...

BUT...

IF YOU THINK MY FAMILY IS THAT ECCENTRIC...

HAYA-TO...

EVEN IF I WERE TO GO OUT WITH YOU...

I WOULDN'T CARE ABOUT THAT.

YOU'RE YOU.

YOUR FAMILY IS YOUR FAMILY.

IT'D BE A PROBLEM FOR BOTH OF OUR HOUSEHOLDS.

BUT... IF WE WERE TO GET MARRIED, IT'D BE A DIFFERENT STORY.

WHAT ...?

YOUR FAMILY... WELL, YOUR GRANDMA'S CERTAINLY TROUBLE-SOME.

Y...

YEAH ...

BUT IF WE PUT THAT ASIDE FOR NOW...

YOU CAN DO THAT...?

AND I'M THE ELDEST SON OF THE KASUKABE FAMILY.

...

YOU'RE THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF THE HOUOUJI FAMILY.

...BUT IN REALITY, IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

YOU MAY THINK OF MARRIAGE AS JUST BEING AN EXTENSION OF LOVE...

EITHER WAY, IF WE WERE TO GET MARRIED, THAT'D MEAN THAT ONE OF OUR TWO HOUSEHOLDS WOULD END WITH OUR GENERATION.

SO IF YOU'RE SERIOUS, YOU NEED TO CONSIDER THAT, TOO.

DASHHH

P

P

P

WHETHER YOU MARRY INTO MY FAMILY... OR WHETHER I MARRY INTO YOURS...

MY FAMILY DOESN'T MATTER!!

THEN I'LL MARRY INTO YOUR FAMILY!!

AT LEAST THINK ABOUT YOUR MOTHER AND GRAND-MOTHER'S FEELINGS.

DON'T BE STUPID.

...

THEN ARE YOU SAYING YOU'LL MARRY INTO MY FAMILY, HAYATO?!

YOU'LL CLOSE YOUR GRANDMA'S CAFÉ AND TAKE OVER OUR COMPANY?!

YOU CAN'T DO THAT!!

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN.

HUH ...?

MAYBE ONE DAY...

I'LL COME TO LIKE YOU ENOUGH THAT I'D BE OKAY WITH THAT.

THAT'S WHY I SAID "I CAN'T SAY THAT I DON'T," SEE?

I SEE HOW IT IS! SO YOU DON'T LIKE ME THAT MUCH NOW!

DON'T SAY THAT.

I JUST DON'T HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW.

...I KNOW.

...

HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING, WE'RE OUT IN PUBLI–

SQUEEZE

WELL, I'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE YOU LIKE ME SO MUCH THAT YOU CAN ONLY THINK OF ME, HAYATO.

SO YOU'D BETTER BE READY.

WELL ...

HMM ...

DON'T WORRY, I'LL THINK ABOUT THE CAFÉ TOO.

WELL THAT'S NO GOOD, IS IT...?

...OH.

HAVE AKANE AND HAYATO-KUN LEFT ALREADY?

I HEARD THEY WERE AT OUR HOUSE, SO I CAME HOME.

YES... I FINISHED THE BUSINESS I HAD WITH THEM.

SO...

...THAT'S THE BOY AKANE HAS FALLEN IN LOVE WITH, *HM?*

I'D DO MY BEST TO ENSURE THAT SUCH A SITUATION NEVER AROSE.

THAT'S OBVIOUS, ISN'T IT?

...SO VERY ALIKE.

THEY REALLY ARE...

WE'RE JUST GOING TO DO OUR BEST TO NOT LET THAT HAPPEN.

IT'LL BE FINE.

LET'S GO HOME ALREADY !!

FORGET ABOUT THAT, WHERE ARE WE?!

HUFF /\ T

/\ T HUFF

WH...WHERE ARE HAYACCHI AND AKANE-SAN...?

#70 Work Offer!

YOU SHOULD DEFINITELY...

...DO IT, SENPAI!!

YOU THINK SO?

...

NOW ISN'T THE TIME FOR THAT!!

RATTLE ガラ

IT'S NOISY IN HERE.

AND IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO LEAVE THE STORE?

OF COURSE!!

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE, YOU KNOW?!

HMM...

A DRAMA?

THAT'S RIGHT!! IT'S A SUPER-POPULAR POLICE DRAMA!! IT'S CALLED "GOLDEN COPS!!"

TSUKISHIMA-SENPAI HAS BEEN SAYING SHE'S GOING TO TURN DOWN AN OFFER SHE GOT TO APPEAR IN A DRAMA!!

YOU SHOULD DO IT.

IT'S JUST THIS ONCE, RIGHT?

WELL, YEAH BUT... I HAVE A SHIFT AT THE CAFÉ ON THAT DAY.

APPARENTLY THE GIRL WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO MAKE A GUEST APPEARANCE GOT HOSPITALIZED WITH APPENDICITIS.

IT SEEMS THAT THE DIRECTOR WHO CAME TO INTERVIEW ME AT THE CAFÉ THE OTHER DAY IS INVOLVED IN THIS DRAMA...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.

IT'S TRUE!! YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO IT, GIRL!

GIRL?

AH... SORRY.

ONE OF THE OTHER GIRLS CAN COVER FOR YOU!!

AFTER ALL, THIS IS A JOB ONLY YOU CAN DO, SENPAI!!

...

WHAT?

UH...

I'M SURE HAYATO-KUN WILL FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU EVEN MORE, SENPAI!!

ANYWAY!! IF YOU SHOW OFF YOUR SPARKLING TALENT IN THIS DRAMA,

THEY'VE ALREADY BEGUN FILMING, RIGHT?

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING RIHO-SAN'S DRAMA!

IT'LL JUST BE SOME MINOR ROLE ANYWAY, WON'T IT?

SINCE THEY MADE THE OFFER SO SUDDENLY.

IT CAN'T BE! THEY WENT TO THE TROUBLE OF ASKING RIHO-SAN, AFTER ALL. IT MUST BE SOME-THING BIG!!

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF MONSTER SHE'LL DEFEAT!!

WHO KNOWS?

THAT CUTE LITTLE CHILD ACTRESS RIHO-CHAN...

...WILL NOW BE PERFORMING AGAIN, ALL GROWN UP!

SHE'S GROW-ING...?

I DEFI-NITELY WANNA SEE THAT!!

RIGHT?

HAH!!

SMASH

CLICK

カチャ

HM?

WHAT ...?

N...NO WAY. NOT AGAIN...

TMP

TMP

TMP

EEK!!

HUH ...?

UH... ARE YOU FROM THE HOUOUJI FAMILY?

IF YOU WANT TO SEE AKANE, SHE'S NOT WORKING TODAY...

NOTHING... WELCOME.

HE'S NOT?

AMERI-CANO.

MAY I TAKE YOUR ORDER?

U... UM...

THIS IS BAD! AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT, ONE OF US IS GOING TO DIE!!

WHICH IS IT?

BUT REALLY, HE'S MIKIMOTO.

HUH? YOU KNOW HIM?

HAYACCHI... THAT GUY OVER THERE IS TANAKA.

A MAN WEARING A BLACK HAT AND TRENCH COAT, AND SUNGLASSES ...

...WHO SITS IN THE CORNER OF A CAFÉ, BLEND-ING IN WITH THE WALL...

RISA TSUKIYAMA, AGED 21. SHE WAS A FORMER GENIUS CHILD ACTRESS, BUT WAS NO LONGER WORKING IN TELEVISION AND HAD BEEN WORKING PART-TIME AT A CAFÉ.

WE FOUND WHAT APPEARS TO BE A SUICIDE NOTE ON THE ROOF OF THE BUILDING.

SO IT WAS...A SUICIDE, SAKYO-SAN?

I WONDER... IT'S TRUE THAT THE PATH HER LIFE TOOK MAY HAVE LED HER TO FEEL DESPERATE, BUT...

THEY SAID IT WAS A ROLE PERFECT FOR ME, DIDN'T THEY?

WHAT'S WITH THIS ROLE...

I'LL GIVE HIM HELL! THAT DIRECTOR... I'M GONNA BEAT HIM TO A PULP AFTER THIS!!

I MEAN, CALLING THE CHARACTER RISA TSUKIYAMA?! IT'S OBVIOUS THEY BASED HER ON ME, ISN'T IT?!

ALL GOOD! YOU PLAYED DEAD WONDERFULLY, TSUKISHIMA-SAN.

OKAY, CUT!!

UWAA!! WHAT'S ALL THIS?!

WHAT'S WRONG, RIHO-CHAN?!

GAHHH!!

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

I MEAN, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE?
FOR HIM TO BE WEARING A HAT AND COAT INSIDE.

AND HE'S JUST BEEN SITTING THERE WITH HIS ARMS CROSSED THE WHOLE TIME.
HE'S BEEN HERE FOR SIX HOURS ALREADY...

...

MAYBE... HE'S A PERVERT INSTEAD.

ONLY FROM THE KNEES DOWN!

NO, I'M PRETTY SURE HE WAS WEARING TROUSERS?

MAYBE HE'S NOT WEARING ANYTHING ON HIS BOTTOM HALF!

ARE YOU SPOUTING NONSENSE AGAIN?

THERE'S NO WAY HE WOULD...

HEY, WHY ARE YOU CITING ME AS AN EXAMPLE?

LIKE WHEN I SAW YOUR DICK OUT THAT TIME!

HE'S JUST GOING TO GET IT OUT AND SHOW IT TO US!

CAN I...

... ASK YOU SOME-THING?

EXCUSE ME.

I...I AM, OKAY?

HEY... GO OVER THERE.

...

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER?

UM...

...

WHAT...?

NO... I'M HERE UNTIL THE CAFÉ CLOSES TODAY.

ARE YOU... ON THE EARLY SHIFT? IS YOUR SHIFT ALMOST OVER?

!!!

WELL, I'VE GOT SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU.

...I SEE.

WAIT A SECOND.

AH...

N...NO THANK YOU!!

NOOO!!

HEY, WAIT-

WHAT?!

NOOO!! HELP ME!!

UWA!!

THUD

AMI-CHAN!!

I KNEW IT!!

TO GUYS LIKE YOU!!

THIS IS WHAT WE DO...

FWIP

UWAAA!!

WHAM!!!

HMPH!!

THAT WAS A SCREW PILE-DRIVER!!

WASN'T THAT A BIT TOO MUCH...?

HE'LL DIE, YOU KNOW?

WHOA...

SHE FLIPPED HIM...

I'LL PROTECT THE PEACE OF THE WORLD...

...AND THE GIRLS OF THIS CAFÉ!!

I'M HOME!

カチャ

CLICK

HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING TO OUR CUSTOM-ERS, YOU IDIOT?!

I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING WRONG! HE WAS A BAD GUY!

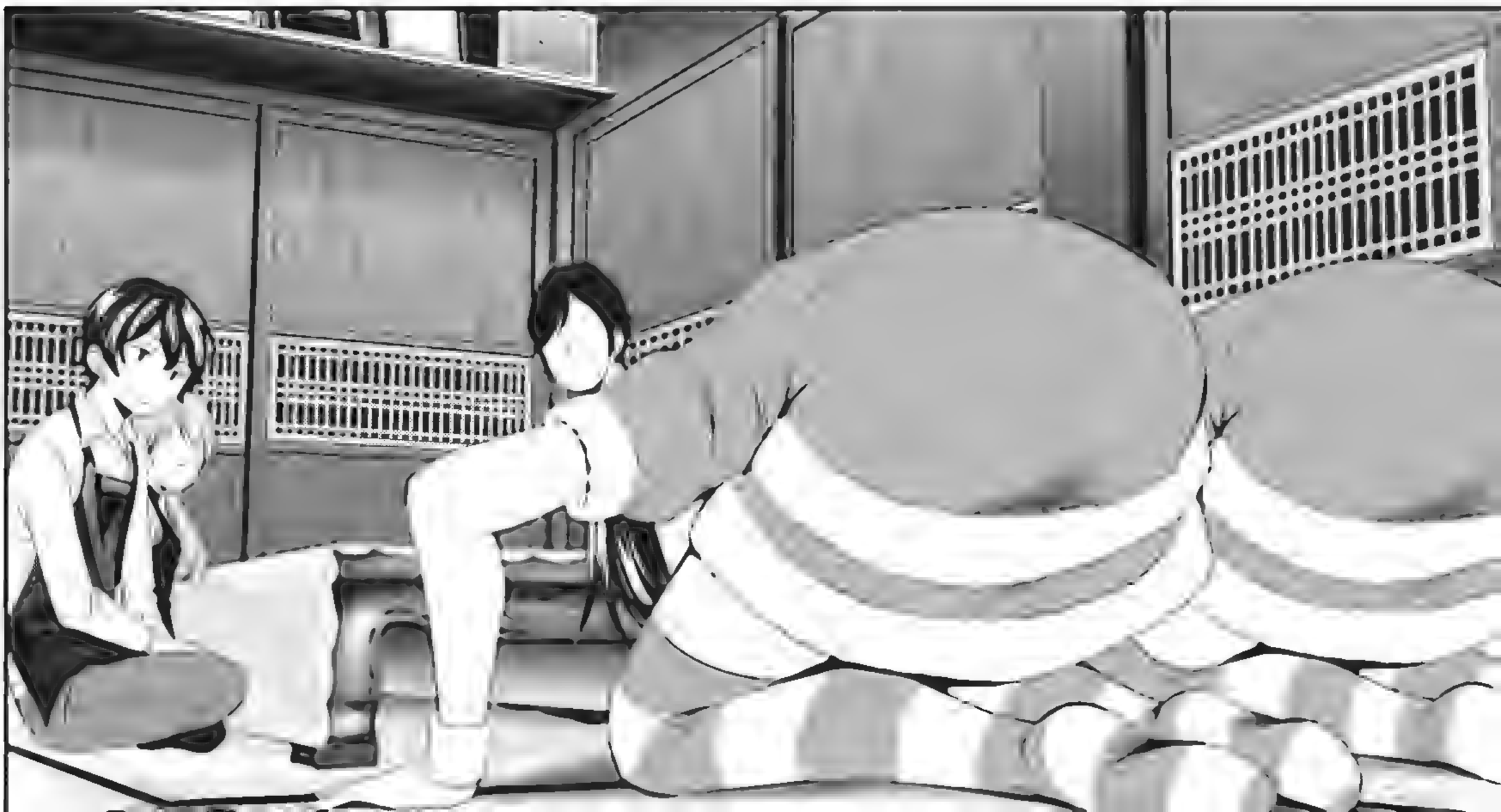
A LOT HAPPENED ...

YOU WERE MAKING SO MUCH NOISE, I COULD HEAR YOU FROM OUTSIDE, YOU KNOW?

!!

DAD?!

#71 A Reunion and an Update



I'M THE ONE AT FAULT FOR COMING AND SITTING IN THE CAFÉ DRESSED LIKE THAT.

UM...

IT'S OKAY, REALLY.

WE'RE TRULY SORRY.

BUT... TO THINK THAT I USED A SCREW PILEDRIVER ON RIHO-SAN'S FATHER...

CLOSE パタン!

RATTLE カラッ

SHUFFLE SHUFFLE スススス…

WE GET IT, SO GO AWAY ALREADY.

THE THREE OF US NEED TO TALK.

DON'T MENTION IT.

WHAT WAS YOUR REASON FOR COMING HERE, ANYWAY?

...IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE BEEN TAKING VERY GOOD CARE OF MY DAUGHTER.

YOU... AND YOUR GRAND-MOTHER.

...

TWITCH

I JUST REALLY WANTED TO SEE RIHO...

BUT EVEN THOUGH I WAITED A LONG TIME, IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE SHE WAS GOING TO COME OUT, SO I TRIED ASKING HER COWORKER.

I THOUGHT IT'D BE GOOD IF I COULD SEE HER AS SHE USUALLY IS, SO I DECIDED TO WEAR A DISGUISE.

SHE'D KNOW THAT I WAS RIHO'S FATHER.

I THOUGHT THAT IF I SHOWED HER THIS PHOTO-GRAPH...

GO AWAY!!

WE'RE SORRYYY!!

BAAAM

BUT...

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HERE.

...

IT'S OKAY...

I WANT THEM BOTH TO HEAR THIS.

SINCE WE'RE FAMILY NOW.

WE STOPPED BY THIS CAFÉ, BACK WHEN HAYATO-KUN'S GRANDMOTHER WAS STILL ALIVE.

WHEN OUR FAMILY WAS STILL CLOSE...

WE CAME HERE ONCE ON HOLIDAY.

Familie

CAFÉ TERRACE

YOU DID?

WOW...

HEY, AMI-CHAN...

THEN WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY DISAPPEAR FROM HER LIFE?!

WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN BETTER FOR THE THREE OF YOU TO LIVE TOGETHER HAPPILY?!

THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN BY MY WIFE.

IT'S A PRECIOUS TREASURE OF MINE.

AROUND THE TIME RIHO STARTED BECOMING POPULAR ON TV AS A CHILD ACTRESS, MY WIFE COMPLETELY CHANGED.

WE DISAGREED ON HOW BEST TO EDUCATE OUR DAUGHTER, AND BEGAN TO FIGHT CONSTANTLY.

MY WIFE ORIGINALLY WANTED TO BE AN ACTRESS HERSELF, BUT SHE EVENTUALLY GAVE UP AFTER HER EFFORTS FAILED TO BEAR FRUIT...

I GUESS SHE REALLY WANTED RIHO TO SUCCEED IN HER PLACE, AS HER DAUGHTER.

MY WIFE BROUGHT IN A TALENTED LAWYER, WHO MANAGED TO GET THE BETTER OF ME.

ONE DAY, MY WIFE FILED FOR A DIVORCE...

I WAS TOLD TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT UNTIL RIHO TURNED TWENTY...

AND THEY MADE ME PROMISE NEVER TO SEE HER UNTIL THEN EITHER.

...!

...AND WE WENT TO COURT.

...

WHAT?! THEN THAT MEANS... YOU DIDN'T ABANDON ME AFTER ALL?!

I'M SORRY, RIHO.

THEY TOLD ME TO LEAVE RIGHT AWAY, WITH-OUT SAYING ANYTHING TO YOU.

SO YOU DID END UP THINKING THAT...

IT'S FINE...

NOW THAT I KNOW.

...DON'T WORRY.

RIHO-SAN IS ALREADY 21, YOU KNOW?!

SHE'S RIGHT!! WHY DIDN'T YOU COME TO SEE HER RIGHT AFTER SHE TURNED TWENTY, THEN?!

IT'S NOT FINE, RIHO-SAN!!

DON'T BE FOOLED!!

WELL, OF COURSE I WANTED TO SEE HER RIGHT AWAY.

...

IT'D JUST BE A NUISANCE FOR ME TO GO AND SEE HER, AS HER FATHER.

OR IF SHE ALREADY HAS A NEW FAMILY...

BUT, FOR BETTER OR WORSE, THE OLDER RIHO GOT, THE LESS SHE WAS APPEARING ON TV.

I THOUGHT, IF SHE HAS A HAPPY, NORMAL LIFE NOW...

SORRY!!

THUNK

I'M SORRYYY!!

...AND THAT'S WHEN I FOUND THAT EVENING NEWS CLIP.

STILL, AS HAD BECOME MY HABIT, I WAS FLICKING THROUGH THE CHANNELS, LOOKING FOR RIHO ON TV...

AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT...

...AND THAT SHE'D NOW LEFT HOME AND WAS WORKING PART-TIME AT A COFFEE SHOP...

AS I LISTENED, I DISCOVERED THAT SHE'D GONE THROUGH A LOT SINCE I LEFT...

THE DOOR'S UNLOCKED ...

HUH ...?

NO... EX-WIFE... TO ASK HER ABOUT IT.

I WONDERED WHAT ON EARTH HAD HAPPENED, SO I WENT TO SEE MY WIFE...

CREAK

CHATTER

CHATTER

HEY, RURI, WHAT HAPPENED IN HERE?! WHERE'S RIHO?!

OH... IT'S JUST YOU.

WHO IS IT?

IF YOU'RE HERE FOR MONEY, I DON'T HAVE ANY.

WHO KNOWS...

I GUESS SHE'S PROBABLY ALIVE SOMEWHERE?

...

...

THAT'S AWFUL ...

YOU DID A GREAT JOB... ALL ON YOUR OWN.

MOTHER!! I GOT A ROLE AS A PASSERBY IN A DRAMATIC REENACT-MENT!!

A POPULAR CHILD ACTOR'S GOING TO BE IN IT, TOO!!

PLEASE!! I'LL PLAY ANY ROLE YOU HAVE!!

HMM... WHAT TO DO...

YOU'RE EMBAR-RASSING ME.

STOP, YOU'RE PATHETIC.

AND I'M SAYING, IT'S ANNOYING! EXPECTING EVERY-ONE TO BE NICE TO YOU IF YOU ACT ALL POLITE, YOU NAÏVE LITTLE GIRL!!

BUT IF I DON'T DO MY BEST, NOBODY ELSE WILL HELP ME!

IT'S DRIVING ME CRAZY, LOOKING AT THAT FACE OF YOURS!!

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

I'M SORRY TO HEAR YOU'VE HAD SO MUCH TROUBLE.

AHH, I SEE... YOU'RE THE GIRL FROM BACK THEN, ARE YOU?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY TAKING A LIVE-IN JOB HERE?

IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULD LEAVE YOUR MOTHER ALONE FOR A WHILE.

WHAT? BUT...

I'LL LOOK AFTER YOU... WHILE YOU'RE STAYING HERE, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY.

IT'S ALRIGHT TO LIVE FOR YOURSELF. DO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO.

...I SEE.

IT'S KIND OF FAR, SO I DON'T THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO COME BACK HERE VERY OFTEN.

I'LL... BE GOING TO WORK A LIVE-IN JOB FOR A WHILE.

YOU KNOW...

CLUNK

WILL YOU BE OKAY FOR FOOD AND EVERYTHING? IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST CALL ME RIGHT AWAY...

UGH!! YOU'RE SO AN-NOYING!!

IF YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE, CAN YOU JUST HURRY UP AND GO? DID YOU THINK I'D TRY TO GET YOU TO STAY?

I WISH I'D NEVER GIVEN BIRTH TO YOU!!

WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT...?

I'M TOTALLY FINE, SEE?

I HAVE LOTS OF FAMILY NOW.

キュッ SQUEEZE

...

JUST STAY HERE FOREVER!!

YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO SEE YOUR MOTHER EVER AGAIN!!

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!! WE'RE RIHO-SAN'S FAMILY NOW!!

NO... PLEASE GO AND SEE HER.

EVEN IF IT'S ONLY ONCE.

... WHAT?

I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, BUT... I DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE ABLE TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS IF THEY SEE EACH OTHER RIGHT NOW.

I UNDER-STAND.

BUT...

RIHO'S MOTHER HAS TERMINAL CANCER.

IT SEEMS THEY'RE SAYING SHE ONLY HAS THREE MONTHS LEFT.

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#72 Riho's Choice

RISA TSUKIYAMA, AGED 21.

SHE WAS A FORMER GENIUS CHILD ACTRESS, BUT WAS NO LONGER WORKING IN TELEVISION AND HAD BEEN WORKING PART-TIME AT A CAFÉ.

I PLAYED A PRETTY GOOD CORPSE, HUH?

WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT HASN'T BEEN EDITED YET, BUT I ASKED THE DIRECTOR TO SEND IT TO ME.

IT'S NOT THAT...

UM...

WHAT?

IS IT WEIRD?

UM...

YEAH ...

HUH ...?

SHE'S UNWELL, ISN'T SHE?

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT YOUR MOTHER?

SO I DIDN'T THINK WE SHOULD KEEP SECRETS FROM EACH OTHER.

W...WELL, WE'RE FAMILY...

DID OUKA-CHAN TELL YOU?

...

WELL, YOU KNOW...

HEY, WHEN DOES THE MONSTER SHOW UP?

... WHAT?

IT'S NOT LIKE HER TERMINAL CANCER IS SUDDENLY GOING TO BE CURED IF I GO SEE HER.

SO YOU WENT ALL THE WAY TO SEE HER...

WOW...

...THE DAUGHTER YOU ABANDONED.

AH...

THAT'S RIGHT.

I REMEMBER NOW.

I NEVER ABANDONED RIHO.

YOU JUST MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO SEE HER.

RURI...

...AND GIVING HER SUCH A NICE PRIVATE ROOM, TOO.

HELPING THE HATEFUL EX-WIFE WHO STOLE YOUR DAUGHTER GET ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL...

STILL, YOU'RE A STRANGE ONE, AREN'T YOU?

EVEN IF IT IS TERMINAL, THERE'S STILL A CHANCE YOU COULD MAKE IT...

THIS HOSPITAL IS ONE OF THE BEST IN JAPAN FOR TREATING CANCER.

...

WON'T YOU EVEN CONSIDER UNDERGOING TREATMENT?

...I WISH YOU'D JUST PUT ME IN A HOSPICE.

IF ANY-THING...

IF I DIE HERE, THEY'LL FIND ME RIGHT AWAY.

I DECIDED TO BE HOSPITALIZED BECAUSE I KNEW THAT IF I DIED IN MY CONDO, IT WOULD INCONVENIENCE OTHERS.

AND I DON'T INTEND TO GO ALONG WITH YOUR TIRESOME HYPOCRISY.

BESIDES, I'M NOT HERE TO LIVE A LONG LIFE.

STOP THAT. I'M SICK OF HEARING IT.

RURI...

I... I'VE NEVER ONCE HELD ANY HATRED TOWARDS YOU.

I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T GET TOO INVOLVED IN OTHER PEOPLES' FAMILY PROB-LEMS...
WELL...
WHAT CAN I DO?

TAP
TAP

...

THAT FAWNING, CLOYING SMILE.

THAT PATHETIC, TROUBLED EXPRESSION THAT ASKS TO BE PITIED.

IT FORCES ME TO REMEMBER THAT THE APPLE DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM THE TREE.

I'M SAYING THAT EVEN JUST BEING WITH YOU IRRITATES ME, BECAUSE IT'S LIKE LOOKING AT MYSELF BACK WHEN I WASN'T SUCCESSFUL.

AH...

COME IN.

KNOCK

KNOCK

...SHE STILL WOULDN'T BE THE PERSON SHE WAS BACK THEN...

EVEN IF I DO GO AND SEE HER NOW...

ガラッ
RATTLE
ガタッ
FLINCH
HELLO, GOOD EVENING.
IT'S ME, GORILLA.
ウホッ
OOH OOH
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, THIS LATE AT NIGHT?
YOU SCARED THE HELL OUT OF ME.

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF WINTER.

YOUNG MISS,

WOULD YOU LISTEN TO A GORILLA'S TALE ON THIS LONG FALL NIGHT?

YOU NEED TO GET YOUR CHARACTERS STRAIGHT.

WHEN I WENT ON THAT TRIP BEFORE...

HAYACCHI SAID TO ME...

...THE FACT THAT HE NEVER SAW HIS GRAND-MOTHER AGAIN WHILE SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

...HUH?

HE SAID THAT HE STILL REGRETS IT...

...

OOH OOH.

I SEE... SO THE THING THAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO GO AND SEE YOUR GRANDMA...

WAS THAT, HUH?

...HUH?

...SO?

...

...I THOUGHT THIS WAS GOING TO WORK BETTER THAN THAT...

HM? THAT'S FUNNY...

THANK YOU.

GORILLA, SIGNING OFF.

OH WELL.

CLICK

...

WOW... THIS SURE IS A FANCY HOSPITAL.

SO THIS IS WHERE YOUR MOTHER IS, HUH?

I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO TAKE THE DAY OFF TO ACCOMPANY ME HERE.

IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD A CHOICE.

I ALREADY GOT MY ASS KICKED BY OUKA, AFTER ALL.

WHUMP

ボゴッ

GO WITH HER, THEN!!

UNTIL YESTERDAY, IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE YOU WANTED TO GO.

BUT WHAT CAUSED THIS SUDDEN CHANGE OF HEART?

YOU WHAT?

I GOT SOME ADVICE FROM THIS ONE GORILLA.

SHE SAID I SHOULD COME AND SEE HER AFTER ALL.

OKAY, YOU JUST WAIT OUT HERE, HAYATO-KUN.

UH...WILL YOU BE OKAY?

GOING IN WITH-OUT ME, I MEAN.

...

THIS IS THE PLACE.

203

THERE ARE THINGS THAT I DON'T WANT THE PERSON I LIKE TO SEE.

...YEAH.

...WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

SNAP

カ//
RATTLE
カラ//

RIHO!
YOU CAME
AFTER ALL.

...

H...HEY!
DON'T SPEAK
TO HER LIKE
THAT...

TMP
TMP
カ//
//

MY, YOU'VE
BECOME A
LOT MORE
FLAMBOYANT,
HAVEN'T
YOU?

ARE YOU
DATING SOME
LOSER?

WHAT?

SO IT'S THREE MONTHS YOU'VE GOT LEFT TO LIVE, HUH?

SERVES YOU RIGHT.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE FINALLY BEING PUNISHED FOR LIVING SO SELFISHLY.

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#73 Mother and Daughter

...

WHY DO I NEED TO TELL HER?

RIHO... THANK YOU FOR COMING.

PLEASE, TELL YOUR MOTHER TO UNDERGO TREATMENT, SHE WON'T LISTEN TO ME.

...WHAT?

...

IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS PERSON.

IF SHE WANTS TO DIE, WE SHOULD JUST LET HER DIE.

SHE'S YOUR MOTHER!!

RI...RIHO! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

...

...AND WHEN THAT DAUGHTER WAS NO LONGER USEFUL, SHE JUST TOSSED HER OUT TO FEND FOR HERSELF. PEOPLE LIKE HER ARE SCUM.

SHE ONLY HAD A DAUGHTER SO THAT SHE COULD USE HER TO SATISFY HER OWN NEED FOR APPROVAL...

I CAN'T REMEMBER A SINGLE TIME...

SHE MAY LOOK LIKE AN ADULT, BUT SHE'S JUST AN IMMATURE CHILD.

SHE'S PATHETIC.

SHE BARELY EVEN WORKS, ALL SHE DOES IS DRINK THE DAY AWAY AND COMPLAIN ABOUT EVERYTHING.

...WHEN THAT WOMAN EVER DID ANYTHING MOTHERLY FOR ME.

...YES.

I DID SAY THAT.

THAT LOOKING AT ME REMINDED YOU OF YOURSELF, AND MADE YOU MAD.

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, DIDN'T YOU?

...

RIHO...

I'M NOT JUST SOME DEGRADED CARBON COPY OF YOU.

DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK.

...MAKES ME WANT TO THROW UP.

EVEN JUST THINKING ABOUT THE FACT THAT I'M RELATED TO SOMEONE LIKE YOU...

!

FWIP

DON'T TOUCH ME!!

HEY, STOP THIS!

NO MATTER HOW THINGS ARE BETWEEN YOU, THIS IS TOO MUCH!

I ONLY CAME HERE TODAY BECAUSE I WANTED TO SAY ALL THIS TO HER FACE!!

THREE MONTHS LEFT, HUH...? I HOPE YOU SPEND THE WHOLE TIME DESPAIRING OVER THE PATH YOUR LIFE HAS TAKEN, AND DIE A DOG'S DEATH!!

WH...

SHIVER

SLAP

WILL YOU PLEASE STOP ALL THIS!!

W...

...

WOW...

EVEN IF YOU ARE MY DAUGHTER, I WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY MORE OF THESE OUTBURSTS!!

AH...

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE EVER RAISED A HAND TO OUR DAUGHTER.

RIHO.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH, BUT... YOU'VE MATURED A LITTLE, HAVEN'T YOU?

NO...

I JUST...

WITH-OUT THINK-ING...

IT HAD FAR TOO MUCH OF A SHOWA-ERA* FEEL.

WELL, I CAN'T APPROVE OF THAT LAST ONE, THOUGH.

...WHAT?

*1926 - 1989 (she's saying Riho's line was old-fashioned)

GRANDMA WOULD'VE COMPLIMENTED ME FOR IT.

SLAM

H...HEY, RIHO!

DON'T TELL ME ALL OF THAT JUST NOW WAS-

BYE THEN.

ARE YOU ALL DONE?

...YEAH.

LET'S GO.

...

WHAT?

I TOLD YOU...

THE LAST PART OF YOUR ACT IS ALWAYS TOO DELIBERATE.

WHO TOLD YOU TO LISTEN?!

WHAT ...?

TWENTY YEARS AGO...

I WAS IN A MOVIE ONCE, IN A MINOR ROLE.

A REAL ACTRESS.

THAT'S WHERE I FIRST MET HER.

SEEING A LEVEL OF TALENT SO DIFFERENT TO MY OWN, RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES...

IT WAS THEN THAT I DECIDED TO GIVE UP ON MY CAREER AS AN ACTRESS.

I WAS COMPLETELY OVERWHELMED BY HER PERFORMANCE.

I WAS MESMERIZED... AND THEN I FELT DESPAIR.

YOU'VE NEVER TOLD ME THIS BEFORE...

I WAS SO SURPRISED WHEN I CAME TO GREET YOUR FAMILY BEFORE OUR WEDDING, AND SHE WAS THERE.

I HAD FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT IT.

BUT RIHO IS NOT JUST MY DAUGHTER...

SHE'S ALSO THAT WOMAN'S GRAND-DAUGHTER.

IT WAS YOUR MOTHER, WHO WAS CALLED THE GREATEST ACTRESS OF THE SHOWA ERA.

YUMIKO ANEKAWA.

BZZZZZ

RURI...

...
WHAT?

...NO...

SHE'S DEFI-
NITELY YOUR
DAUGHTER.

THIS
WAS APPAR-
ENTLY AN
AD-LIBBED
PART...

...BUT
IT SEEMS
IT'LL BE CUT
FROM THE
FINAL EDIT
OF THE
SHOW.

...

HAYATO-
KUN...

THE MANAGER
OF THE COFFEE
SHOP WHERE SHE
WORKS, HE SENT
THIS OVER.

IT'S
FROM THE
DRAMA SHE
APPEARED IN
YESTERDAY.

...“I’M GLAD I GAVE BIRTH TO YOU”!!

I’LL MAKE MY MOTHER SAY...

WHA... REALLY?!

...PERHAPS I WILL...

GET TREATMENT AFTER ALL.

...WHETHER THE CHILD I GAVE BIRTH TO IS A MERE FROG...

OR WHETHER SHE CAN SPREAD HER WINGS AND SOAR LIKE A HAWK.

I WANT TO BE ABLE TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO FIND OUT...

WHAT?

I WAS JUST THINKING, THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO SHOW LOVE, AREN'T THERE?

KIKU-CHAN'S FATHER...

AKANE-CHAN'S MOTHER...

AMI-CHAN'S SISTER...

OUKA-CHAN'S SISTER...

SO I DECIDED TO DO THE SAME, IN A WAY THAT MY FAMILY WILL UNDERSTAND.

THAT'S HOW I THOUGHT OF GETTING THROUGH TO MY MOTHER THAT WAY.

THEY ALL DO THINGS DIFFERENT-LY...

...BUT YOU CAN SEE THAT THEY ALL CARE ABOUT EACH OTHER.

EVEN THOUGH SHE PUT YOU THROUGH SO MUCH.

WELL, PARENTS ARE STILL PARENTS, NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE THEY ARE.

...TO BE PRAISED BY MY MOTHER.

BESIDES, IT REALLY WAS NICE...

...

フフーン HMPH

I GUESS I'M JUST ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE...

WHO USE ANY BAD EXPERIENCES THEY MAY HAVE HAD TO FUEL THEM INSTEAD!

...THAT YOU'RE GOING TO GO BACK INTO THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY AND TRY TO BECOME AN ACTRESS?

BUT...

DOES THIS MEAN...

SHE SAID YOUR ACTING WAS TOO MUCH LIKE SHOWA ERA ACTING THOUGH, DIDN'T SHE?

YOU HAVE THIS HABIT OF GETTING TOO EXCITED AND BECOMING OVERCONFI-DENT, YOU KNOW?

DON'T ANALYZE ME!

I HAVE A FEELING YOU'LL BE GETTING MORE OFFERS SOON, THOUGH.

REALLY?

HMM, I DON'T KNOW.

IT'S NOT THE KIND OF JOB THAT YOU CAN DO JUST BECAUSE YOU DECIDE THAT YOU WANT TO.

HUH? WHY ME?

PUT ME DOWN!!

ダアアアア DASHHH

THEN I'LL BE NEEDING YOUR HELP, HAYATO-KUN.

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT KIND OF ROLE I MIGHT GET, YOU KNOW?

WELL...

SO I NEED YOU TO HELP ME EXPERIENCE EVERYTHING TO THE FULLEST...

...INCLUDING LOVE.

I'M READY NOW IF YOU ARE!!

WAIT, WAIT!! THIS IS TOO SUDDEN!!

WHAT...?

IN THE YEAR 1961

IN A CERTAIN CORNER OF A CITY SOMEWHERE, THERE WAS A POPULAR COFFEE SHOP.

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

IT IS SAID THAT...

IT WAS HOME TO A GROUP OF GODDESSES.

#74 Familia 1961

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

I'M SORRY, BUT SINCE IT'S A SMALL HOUSE, YOU'LL HAVE TO SHARE A ROOM WITH ONE OF THE OTHERS.

THE HOUSE IS AROUND THE BACK. WE ALREADY HAVE FIVE OTHER EMPLOYEES WORKING HERE.

SINCE IT'S JUST A COFFEE SHOP, WE DON'T SERVE ALCOHOL, AND THERE'S NO NEED TO GIVE CUSTOMERS ANY SPECIAL TREAT-MENT.

WE'RE OPEN FROM 10:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M.

...

THAT'S EVERY-THING.

NO!!

THAT'S NOT IT...

WHAT'S THAT FACE FOR?

YOU'RE FRESH OUT OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND YOU WANTED TO GIVE ALL THE OLDIES SPECIAL TREATMENT, HUH?

I LEFT THE COUNTRYSIDE TO COME HERE AND GET A COOKING JOB!!

I ONLY APPLIED HERE BECAUSE IT SAID ON THE ADVERT THAT IT WAS AN EATING ESTAB-LISHMENT...

TAP, TAP, TAP

WHY IS THIS JUST A COFFEE SHOP?! YOU'RE SCAMMING PEOPLE!!

WE SERVE THINGS LIKE ICE CREAM AND SANDWICHES, YOU KNOW?

WHA? THIS *IS* AN EATING ESTABLISH-MENT.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME, THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO WORK HERE!!

UM... I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT I–

THOSE'RE JUST LIGHT BITES!!

THEY STILL HAVE THE WORD "BITES" IN THEM THOUGH, DON'T THEY?! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

HM? YEAH, SHE JUST GOT HERE...

?!

BAM!!!

CAP-TAIN!!

HAS THE NEW GIRL ARRIVED?!

I'M KATSUYO TATSUTA!! PLEASED TO MEET YOU!!

LISTEN TO ME!!

I WILL NOT!!

HEY, I SAID WAIT!!

WHAT?! WAIT, I WAS JUST–

YAY!! COME WITH ME!!

...SACHIKO MATSU-SHIMA, HUH?

LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT ANOTHER STUBBORN KID WORKING HERE NOW.

WE'RE SUPER BUSY!!

CHATTER #1

CHATTER #7

IT'S SO FANCY...

THIS PLACE IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE PLACES BACK HOME.

HEY, STOP SPACING OUT OVER THERE AND TAKE THESE EMPTY CUPS!!

B...BUT I'M-

WHOA!!

SLIP

WHA ?!

CLATTER

AW, KATSUYO-CHAN, DON'T ADD TO OUR WORKLOAD LIKE THIS.

OH?

SHE'S SO TINY, SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE A DOLL!!

WOW, SHE'S SO CUTE!!

TMP

HEY!!

YOU'RE THE NEW PERSON FROM THE RECRUITMENT DRIVE?

MY, HOW PLAINLY DRESSED YOU ARE! WHICH BACKWATER TOWN DID YOU COME HERE FROM?

PFFT

UH... I DIDN'T ASK, BUT–

DON'T YOU THINK IT LOOKS STYLISH, PAIRING BOOTS WITH KIMONO?!

I TOOK REFERENCE FROM THE OUTFITS OF TAISHO-ERA* SERVING LADIES!!

THAT'S RIGHT!! THESE UNIFORMS WERE ALL MADE BY ME, HARUE YAEYAMA!!

*1912 - 1926

I DIDN'T SAY THAT...

WHAT?! YOU WANT TO WEAR IT RIGHT AWAY?!

JUST WAIT A MOMENT!!

NOBODY'S LISTENING TO ME...

IF YOU LET ME TAKE YOUR MEA-SUREMENTS, I'LL HAVE IT DONE BY TONIGHT!!

I HAD NO INTENTION OF WORKING HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE–

AH!!

BUMP

YOU'RE IN THE WAY.

IF YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO, GO WASH THE DISHES OR SOMETHING.

AH... SORRY.

COME ON, GET TO WORK! GO AND TAKE OVER WASHING THE DISHES FROM AKEMI-CHAN.

WHAT?! BUT I...

NO I DIDN'T.

IT'S OKAY, YOKO-CHAN IS ALWAYS LIKE THAT. SHE'S NOT A SCARY PERSON, THOUGH.

YOU PROBABLY THOUGHT SHE WAS GOING TO KILL YOU, RIGHT?

...

AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?

OH?

DAZE

フラッ

TWIRL

TWIRL

AH...!

SHE LOOKS KIND OF DAZED.

UM... IS SHE OKAY?

MEOOOW!!

MASAHIRO-SAN, THIS IS BAD!! IT LOOKS LIKE AKEMI-CHAN'S MANAGED TO INHALE SOME KIND OF ALCOHOL VAPOR AGAIN!!

WHAT?! TAKE HER BACK TO THE HOUSE AND PUT HER TO BED!!

CLING

MEOOOW!!

WHA?! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!

粕壁

*Sign: Kasukabe

UGH...

THEY REALLY WORKED ME HARD.

HEY, YOU'RE IN THE WAY, DON'T SLEEP IN THE EN-TRANCE HALL.

KICK

GAH!!

HUH?

WHAT ARE YOU GOING ON ABOUT, YOU BRAT?

YOU PERVERT!!

I'LL STAY FOR ONE NIGHT FIRST, BUT THEN I'M QUITTING!!

I'M GOING TO QUIT!!

I DON'T WANT TO HAVE CURRY RICE ON FRIDAYS ANYMORE!!

AND HARUE'S COOKING IS AWFUL!!

CAP-TAIN!!

RATTLE

カー

HM? WHAT IS IT, PRIVATE TATSUTA?

STOMP

NO NO NO!! YOU'RE MIS-TAKEN!!

...

STOP WHINING!! NO ONE ELSE HERE CAN COOK, SO YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT!!

STOMP

HMM...WELL, YOU'RE NOT WRONG, HER COOKING IS AWFUL...

BUT HAVING CURRY ON FRI-DAYS...

IS A NAVY TRADITION!!

UM...

I CAN COOK SIMPLE THINGS...

SHALL I MAKE SOME-THING...?

THE WORLD OF COOKING ISN'T THAT EASY TO JUST ENTER INTO, SACCHAN!!

WHAT? YOU CAN?

WHAT IS THIS?!

DELI-CIOUS!!

IS IT MISO?

WOW, YOU CAN MAKE THINGS LIKE THIS?

THIS IS BEEF STEW. THE INGREDIENTS ARE ALMOST THE SAME AS WHEN YOU MAKE CURRY.

IT'S SO GOOD!

NO...THIS IS REALLY EASY TO-

CHATTER

SACCHAN, SECONDS!!

SACHIKO-SAN, PLEASE TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE THIS, TOO.

CHATTER

AS IF YOURS IS ANY BETTER!!

MASAHIRO-SAN'S COOKING IS TERRIBLE, ISN'T IT?

CHATTER

IT'S GREAT TO FINALLY HAVE A GIRL WHO CAN COOK HERE.

YEAH, THIS IS GOOD.

GET THEM YOURSELF, KATSUYO!!

AW...

THIS MIGHT EVEN TASTE BETTER THAN THE FOOD AT THAT RESTAURANT IN GINZA!!

SO, HOW ABOUT THIS, SACHIKO?

WHAT?

IF YOU'RE REALLY THAT AGAINST WORKING HERE...

...I CAN REFER YOU TO A RESTAURANT RUN BY A FRIEND OF MINE IF YOU WANT?

HUH?

I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH HER.

WHAT? WHY?! AFTER SHE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE!!

THAT'S RIGHT!!

STAY HERE WITH US, SACCHAN!!

...

WELL, FIRST...

UM...

...COULD YOU PLEASE TEACH ME HOW TO BREW COFFEE...?

ガタン
ガタン
RATTLE
RATTLE
6226
3
COME ON, LINE UP IN FRONT OF THE STORE.
WOW...
IT'S SO CUTE!
HUH...? WHY?
...TO COMMEMORATE A NEW MEMBER JOINING US.
I'M TAKING A PHOTO...
STOP COM-PLAIN-ING!!
OH... OKAY.
I KNOW IT'S A PAIN, BUT JUST GO ALONG WITH IT.
MASAHIRO-SAN LIKES TAKING PHOTOS.

OKAY...
THEN...

OH! THAT'S RIGHT! I'D LIKE A COPY OF THIS PHOTO TOO!

IT'S FINE, IT MAKES THE COMPOSITION MORE BALANCED.

AH... BUT...

SACHIKO, YOU'RE SHORT, SO STAND IN THE MIDDLE!

OKAY, HERE WE GO, SMILE!

FUJIPET

SURE, I'LL GIVE YOU A COPY LATER WITH EVERY-ONE'S NAMES WRITTEN ON IT.

パシャ

FLASH

...LOOK SO ALIKE.

THEY REALLY DO...

THE FACT THAT ALL OF US GRANDCHILDREN HAVE GATHERED HERE...

MAYBE THERE REALLY IS A REASON FOR IT...

...

!

HEY, KEEP YOUR VOICES DOWN!

THAT'S BAD...HAS HE LOST HIS MIND?

IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S JUST STARING AT OUR PHOTO AND MUMBLING TO HIMSELF.

IT'S KIND OF CREEPY, ISN'T IT...?

WHUMP

AH! STOP PUSHING!!

WHAT'RE YOU ALL DOING?!

THEN JUST SAY THAT TO BEGIN WITH!!

HAYACCHI, TONIGHT WE'RE HAVING BEEF STEW!!

WE JUST CAME TO TELL YOU DINNER'S READY!!

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

I HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING BACK THEN...

CLACK

CLACK

CLACK

CLACK

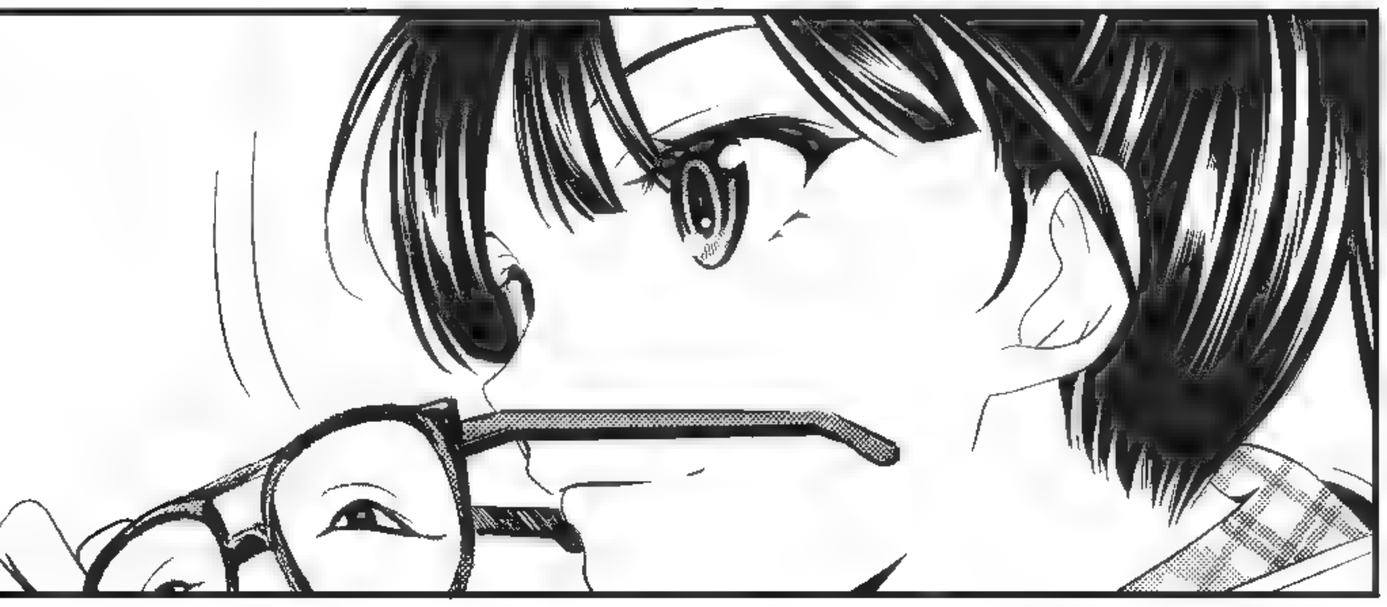
...COULD FALL APART SO EASILY.

...THAT EVERYTHING I'D WORKED SO HARD FOR...

#75 Getting Ready For Christmas

三浦海岸
Miura Beach

NO WAY.
IF I LEFT IT ALL TO YOU, YOU'D JUST BUY A BUNCH OF WEIRD STUFF WE DON'T NEED.
I CAN BUY CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS JUST FINE ON MY OWN.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO COME WITH ME.



THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY, I'D MAKE SURE TO ONLY BUY FUN THINGS!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I MEANT.

BUT I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!
THE CHRISTMAS PARTY?
THEY WERE SAYING WE'RE GOING TO CELEBRATE WITH RIRIKA AND THE OTHERS.
WELL, YEAH, THAT TOO, BUT...

WHAT ABOUT SANTA-SAN?! I HOPE HE COMES AGAIN THIS YEAR!!

HUH? AREN'T YOU TOO OLD TO STILL BELIEVE IN-

WHAT ...?

LAST YEAR, I ASKED FOR LOTS OF CANDY, AND HE BROUGHT ME SOME!!

BUT IT WAS ALL THE KIND OF STUFF OLD PEOPLE LIKE!

I SEE...

MAYBE !!

WELL, MAYBE THIS YEAR YOU MIGHT GET SOME CANDY YOU'LL LIKE BETTER?

BUT THIS YEAR, I'M GONNA ASK FOR AN EXERCISE MACHINE!!

LIKE THE ONES AT THE GYM!!

UH... DON'T THOSE THINGS COST A LOT OF MONEY?

I DON'T KNOW!! BUT I WANT ONE!!

Y... YEAH ...

ONE OF THOSE, HUH...

AS YOU'D EXPECT, THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE NOW THAT IT'S NEARLY CHRISTMAS.

IT'S PRETTY EXCITING, ISN'T IT?!

HEY, DEAR, HAVE YOU BOUGHT A PRESENT FOR MASATO YET?

NOT YET...THAT NEW GAME CONSOLE IS A LITTLE EXPENSIVE, AFTER ALL...

I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE THEY DON'T THINK SANTA IS REAL?

HAYA-CCHI...

WHY IS THAT COUPLE OVER THERE TRYING TO BUY CHRISTMAS PRESENTS THEMSELVES?

I'D BETTER GO AND TELL THEM THAT HE IS!

THAT'S SILLY!

?

WHAT WAS THAT? ARE WE PLAYING A GAME?

NO, NOT REALLY...

HEY, LET'S GO LOOK OVER THERE.

HE STILL BELIEVES IN SANTA, EVEN THOUGH HE'S ALREADY IN 6TH GRADE... IT MAKES THINGS DIFFICULT FOR US AS PARENTS.

FWUMP

EXERCISE

NO... BUT WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME, SO LET'S HAVE A LOOK AROUND.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, HAYACCHI?

THE PARTY SUPPLIES AREN'T OVER HERE.

EXERCISE

YOU COULD ASK SANTA FOR THIS!

HUH?

OH!

AMI, WHAT ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS?

WHOA!

YOU'RE RIGHT!!

ISN'T SOMETHING LIKE THIS CUTER THAN A BIG EXERCISE MACHINE?

AN AB ROLLER!

AB ROLLER
腹筋ローラー

WHY NOT? SANTA-SAN'S GETTING ME AN EXERCISE MACHINE!

ONE OF THOSE ONES THAT'S AS BIG AS A BUILDING!

A BUILD-ING...?

YOU...

DON'T BUY IT NOW!!

I'LL BUY IT, THEN!!

AB ROLLER
腹筋ローラー

AW...

AB ROLLER
腹筋ローラー

THAT'S NOT WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR.

LOOK, JUST PUT IT BACK.

...

STOP THAT.

OWO-OWO-OWOO!!

WHA?! YOU BELIEVED IN SANTA UNTIL YOU WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?! HOW LAME!!

FWP
FWP
FWP
FWP

HEY!! DON'T JUST REVEAL WHO YOU ARE LIKE THAT!!

PHEW! I'M FINALLY DONE WITH WORK.

RIP RIP

WE'D BETTER FINISH SHOPPING AND GO HOME RIGHT AWAY.

THERE'RE TOO MANY PEOPLE HERE THAT'D CRUSH A CHILD'S DREAMS.

?

HUH...? AH... YOU'RE RIGHT.

SORRY ...

YOU'RE NOT A CHILD, SO STOP SAYING WEIRD THINGS LIKE THAT.

HAYACCHI... THAT WAS JUST A SHOP CLERK DRESSED AS SANTA...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH EVERY-ONE?!

I BET YOU DID THAT ON PUR-POSE!!

IT DOESN'T MATTER, DOES IT? IT'S CUTE.

I WONDER HOW LONG MASATO WILL KEEP BELIEVING IN SANTA?

FWP FWP FWP

FWP FWP FWP FWP

!!

THAT'S WHEN I REALIZED THAT SANTA WAS JUST MY DAD ALL ALONG!!

...

HA-YACCHI ...

!!

FWP

FWP

FWP

FWP

FWP

PBBT

WHAT'RE YOU DOING..?

GRIND GRIND

GRIND GRIND

DON'T GET TOO CARRIED AWAY.

GOT IT, OFFICER?

RIGHT... I'M SORRY.

UWAH!!

SORRY, I WAS LOOKING THE WRONG WAY...

LISTEN, HAYACCHI ...

WHEN I LET YOU SQUEEZE MY BOOBS BEFORE, IT WAS TO THANK YOU FOR HELPING MY GRANDMOTHER.

FWSHHH

STOP GOING ON ABOUT IT!! IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!!

I'LL HAVE TO TELL THE OTHERS!!

WOW, WHAT A GREAT DISCOVERY! FINDING OUT THAT IF I LET YOU SQUEEZE MY BOOBS, YOU'LL LET ME BUY WHATEVER I WANT!

YOU JUST ENDED UP BUYING A BUNCH OF STUFF WE DIDN'T NEED...

DAMN IT...

*About $0.75

THAT'S JUST A 100 YEN* TOY, IT'S NOT EVEN WORTH IT.

IT'S OKAY, WE BOUGHT SO MUCH STUFF, THEY GAVE ME THIS RING.

THIS'LL BE A PRECIOUS SOUVENIR OF MY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SPREE WITH YOU, HAYACCHI!

IT'S OKAY!

I SEE.

...

...BUT I HOPE I CAN MAKE LOTS MORE HAPPY MEMORIES WITH EVERYONE NEXT YEAR, AND THE YEAR AFTER THAT, TOO!

I KNOW A LOT HAPPENED THIS YEAR...

I HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING BACK THEN...

YEAH...

I HOPE SO TOO.

HII

RUSTLE

P

P

P

ROLL

ROLL

...THAT EVERYTHING I'D WORKED SO HARD FOR...

AH...

...COULD SO EASILY...

OH...!

MY RING!

AH...

BE CAREFUL.

CRACK CRACK

OOPS, THAT WAS CLOSE.

HEY...

I THOUGHT YOU SAID IT WAS A PRECIOUS SOUVENIR?

WELL... I GUESS IT WAS ONLY WORTH 100 YEN!!

A HA HA HA!! MY SOUVENIR JUST GOT SMASHED TO PIECES!!

*A genre of manga in which the main character suddenly gets transported to another world, usually after being run over by a box truck.

OH...IS THAT WHAT HAPPENS IN THOSE?

HAYA-CCHI...

I DON'T REALLY WANT TO END UP IN SOME KIND OF ISEKAI* JUST FOR A CHEAP RING.

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

WELL, IT IS THE END OF THE YEAR, AFTER ALL.

THERE SURE DO SEEM TO BE A LOT OF TRUCKS AROUND TODAY, THOUGH.

...

OH... HAYATO-KUN.

WHAT'S SHE DONE NOW?

I SAID I WAS SORRY, AMI-CHAN!

COME ON, CHEER UP. I'M SORRY.

RIHO-CHAN SAID "THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS SANTA" IN FRONT OF AMI-CHAN...

...AND THEN SHE TOLD HER THAT LAST YEAR'S CANDY WAS FROM GRANDMA.

THE THINGS PEOPLE WORK SO HARD FOR...

REALLY CAN FALL APART SO EASILY, CAN'T THEY?

HUH...? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

COME ON, AMI-CHAN!!

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

千代田食堂

COME ON YOU GUYS, HELP ME OUT!

*Sign: Chiyoda Diner

I'M THE ONLY ONE DECORATING, AREN'T I?

REAL-LY?!

YEAH!

WOW, YOU HAVE SUCH A GOOD EYE FOR THESE THINGS, OUKA-CHAN!

WE'D NEVER BE ABLE TO DO THIS AS WELL AS YOU CAN.

LEAVE IT TO ME!!

OF COURSE! WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!

OKAY, JUST LEAVE IT TO OUKA MAKUZAWA, THE GIRL WITH AN EYE FOR AESTHETICS!!

千代田食堂

P

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS
GODDESSES

#76 Celebrating Together

COME AND JOIN US WHEN YOU'RE DONE HERE, HAYATO-KUN.

THEY'RE LETTING US USE THE SECOND FLOOR!!

OKAY, WE'RE GOING TO GO OVER TO THE CHIYODA DINER AND HELP THEM GET READY FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY.

COME TO THINK OF IT...

...THIS MIGHT BE MY FIRST REAL CHRISTMAS.

I DON'T HAVE ANY MEMORIES OF MY PARENTS, AFTER ALL...

...AND UNTIL MIDDLE SCHOOL, IT WAS JUST ME AND GRANDMA EATING CAKE TOGETHER EVERY YEAR.

MY THREE YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL WERE SPENT STUDYING HARD TO GET INTO TOKYO U.

I DIDN'T HAVE TIME FOR ANY-THING ELSE.

...

I CAN JUST AVOID ALL THAT CONFUSING LOVE STUFF...

...AND HAVE A BIG GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Familia
CAFÉ TERRACE

WELL...

I GUESS THAT'S NOT SO BAD.

CHRISTMAS IS...

...ALL ABOUT LOVE!!

わさ RUSTLE

わさ RUSTLE

AREN'T YOU THE ONE DOING THAT, GETTING INVOLVED BY THROWING A CHRISTMAS PARTY LIKE THIS?

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE GETTING ALONG AND PRETENDING TO BE A HAPPY FAMILY, YOU GUYS!!

CLINK カチャ

THEY ALL JUST HAPPILY PLAY WITH MY BOOBS AND—

PLEASE STOP TALKING.

I'M ALREADY BORED OF...

SPENDING CHRISTMAS EATING DINNER WITH A GUY AND THEN DOING NAUGHTY THINGS WITH THEM AT A HOTEL SOME-WHERE.

PROGRESS, HUH...? I DON'T KNOW...

I DON'T THINK HE HATES ME, AT LEAST.

HAVE YOU MADE ANY PROGRESS AT ALL WITH HAYATO-KUN?

BUT WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON, SENPAI?

I WONDER IF HE EVEN HAS ANY ROMANTIC FEELINGS FOR ANYONE?

ALL HE TALKS ABOUT IS THE CAFÉ, I NEVER KNOW WHAT HE'S REALLY THINKING.

A HA HA!

THAT WAS JUST A JOKE.

OH! I HEARD SHE EVEN PROPOSED TO HIM?!

IF YOU KEEP BEING SO LAID-BACK ABOUT THIS, AKANE-CHAN'LL STEAL HIM RIGHT FROM UNDER YOUR NOSE, YOU KNOW?

SHE'S EVEN TOLD HER FAMILY THAT SHE WANTS TO MARRY HIM.

SHE SAID SHE WAS BEING SERIOUS, THOUGH?

WHAT?

...

HEY, HEY, FORGET ABOUT THAT, HOW DO THESE DECORATIONS LOOK?

AMAZING, TRULY GROUNDBREAK-ING!! BUT FIRST, TELL ME IN DETAIL WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT, OUKA-CHAN!!

WELL, I CROSSED OVER THESE DECORA-TIONS HERE-

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!!

IN

SENPAI!! YOU HAVE TO HURRY AND MAKE A MOVE RIGHT AWAY!!

WELL, WELL! WHAT'LL YOU DO NOW?

AFTER ALL, WE'RE FELLOW CAFÉ WRITING CLUB MEMBERS!

FOR THE HAYATO-KUN THING.

HUH?

I'M ABSO-LUTELY ON YOUR SIDE, AKANE-CHAN!

NOW THAT WE SIT HERE WRITING TOGETHER, WE'RE FRIENDS!

I DON'T HAVE ANY MEMORY OF JOINING SUCH A CLUB.

HOW COME?

...CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU ALONE, AKANE-CHAN.

BESIDES, I...

...YOU'D TOTALLY BE THE DEFEATED HEROINE WHO MAKES ALL THE WRONG MOVES!

BECAUSE IF THIS WAS A LIGHT NOVEL...

HUH?

...

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

SO YOU'RE SAYING HAYATO-KUN'LL END UP DATING RIHO OR SHIRAGIKU?

IT'S SO UNFAIR, YOU'RE PUTTING IN THE MOST EFFORT, AFTER ALL.

YEAH... IF YOU DO THAT, I FEEL LIKE YOU'LL JUST GET REJECTED, AND THAT MAKES ME SAD.

IT'S NO GOOD COMING ONTO THE MAIN CHARACTER RIGHT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY...

THE FAVORITE IS BOUND TO BE...

...OUKA-CHAN.

TOP THREE?

UH... WHAT'RE YOU GOING ON ABOUT? OF COURSE HE WON'T.

THOSE TWO WOULD BE LUCKY TO REACH THE TOP THREE.

...THEN AS SOON AS THEY TAKE THE LAST TURN, SHE'LL EXPLODE WITH POWER AND PULL AWAY IN A SINGLE LEAP!!

SHE'LL TAKE IT ALL!!

SHE'LL STAY IN THE BACK UNTIL THE END OF THE RACE, SAVING HER ENERGY...

HEY...JUST WHAT KIND OF NOVEL ARE YOU WRITING?

AMI-CHAN MIGHT END UP BEING A DARK HORSE TOO, I LIKE HER CHANCES!

...

OH, BUT...

WE MIGHT STILL NOT HAVE ENOUGH THOUGH, SINCE THERE'LL BE 11 OF US.

WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE A LOT OF THESE LIL' PINCHOS, HAVEN'T WE?

WELL, THE INGREDIENTS MIGHT BE DIFFERENT, BUT THE RECIPE'S PRETTY SIMILAR TO OTHER THINGS I MAKE.

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS LOVE AND SINCERITY AND–

BUT YOU REALLY ARE A GREAT COOK, MOEMI-CHAN.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CAN MAKE SPANISH FOOD SO WELL AFTER ONLY BEING TAUGHT A LITTLE.

BROTHS ARE A STAPLE OF JAPANESE CUISINE, AFTER ALL.

SWP スポ

KATSUO DASHI* AND KOMBU DASHI**.

*A broth made from bonito (dried tuna) flakes

**A broth made from seaweed

SO PLEASE LEAVE THE PINCHOS TO ME! COULD YOU MAKE THE CAKE FOR US, SHIRAGIKU-SAN?

フッ

PFF HA HA

DOSU-KOI!!

COME ON...SAY "MEOW."

LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO.

WILL YOU GO AND PLAY OUTSIDE? WE'RE A LITTLE BUSY HERE.

MEOW, MEOW!

...

WHAT?

OH, BY THE WAY, YOU'LL BE GRADUATING FROM UNIVERSITY SOON TOO, RIGHT, SHIRAGIKU-SAN? WILL YOU BE TAKING OVER YOUR FAMILY'S RESTAURANT BACK HOME?

CHATTER

CHATTER

IN THAT CASE, WILL YOU BE STARTING A NEW RESTAURANT OF YOUR OWN?

OH, I SEE.

I DOUBT I'LL BE ABLE TO TAKE OVER MY FATHER'S RESTAURANT...

OH MY!

NO...I'M HOPING TO MARRY HAYATO-KUN...

...AND WORK TOGETHER WITH HIM AT FAMILIA.

...WHAT?

OH, SO THE TWO OF YOU ARE ALREADY PRETTY CLOSE, AFTER ALL!

I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED SINCE IT SEEMED LIKE YOU'VE HARDLY DONE ANYTHING COMPARED TO RIHO-SAN AND AKANE-SAN.

I GUESS THAT MEANS YOU'RE PRETTY CONFIDENT ABOUT THIS, THEN.

WELL...

HUH...?

HAVE I ALREADY BEEN LEFT BEHIND?

OH MY!

千代田食堂

...

I SHOULD'VE INTRODUCED HIM TO MY PARENTS AS MY BOYFRIEND WHEN I MET WITH THEM BEFORE.

I MESSED UP...

I NEVER GOT AROUND TO ASKING HIM ABOUT MY PROPOSAL PROPERLY, DID I...?

COME TO THINK OF IT...

I REALLY... HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!!

I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!!

I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING!!

CLOSED

SINCE IT'S CHRISTMAS, THIS IS MY CHANCE!

IT'S A LITTLE EARLY, BUT SINCE THERE'S NO SIGN OF ANY CUSTOMERS, I GUESS I'LL CLOSE UP NOW.

NGH...

CAFÉ TERRACE

HAYA-CCHI!!

...OKAY.

EVERYONE'S WAITING!!

THEY SAID EVERYTHING'S READY FOR THE PARTY!!

OKAY, OKAY.

YEAH!!

BE QUICK, THEN!!

I'LL JUST GET CHANGED AND THEN I'LL HEAD OVER THERE.

...OH YEAH.

THAT'S RIGHT.

THERE WE GO.

MEOOOW.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES ARE ALWAYS BETTER...

...WITH MORE PEOPLE.

1/10 FWMP

1/10 FWMP

1/10 FWMP

SACHIKO?

...ARE YOU COMING TOO...

LET'S ALL ENJOY CHRISTMAS TOGETHER.

JUST THIS ONCE...

THE BATTLE FOR HAYATO'S AFFECTIONS BEGINS!!

Bonus Manga

Goddesses at Rest

Featuring sub-stories that couldn't be fitted into the main story!

Riho Tsukishima: Gorilla Whisperer

GORILLA, SIGNING OFF.

THANK YOU.

...

CLICK

OOH OOH!

GO TO BED.

RATTLE

YOU CALLED?

Ami Tsuruga: Police Car Mode

The Café Terrace and its Goddesses 8

Kodansha Digital Edition

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First published in Japan in 2022 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

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English digital edition published by Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

ISBN: 9781684919710

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation: Ella Donaldson
Lettering: Zwei Lichtroad
Editing: Jordan Reynolds
YKS Services LLC/SKY JAPAN, Inc.

kodansha.us

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

CLINK

HELLO EVERYONE, I'LL BE THE MC FOR TODAY'S EVENT!

I'M RIRIKA CHIYODA, FORMER IDOL TURNED YOUTUBER! THANKS FOR COMING!

WOO, TWIN-TAILS!!

GO, BLACK HAIR!!

THANK YOU!

DON'T JUST CALL OUT WHAT YOU SEE...

WHAT?

SHOULDN'T YOU STREAM THIS LIVE, SINCE IT'S A SPECIAL EVENT?

THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

I MEAN, I DON'T MIND STREAMING IT IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT, HAYATO-KUN?

BUT I FEEL LIKE IT'D GET PEOPLE PRETTY STIRRED UP ONLINE TO SEE A GUY HAVING A PARTY WITH TEN GIRLS AT CHRISTMAS JUST BECAUSE HE'S THE OWNER OF BOTH ESTABLISHMENTS.

THEN PLEASE JUST KEEP IT A PRIVATE PARTY.

千代田食堂

P

*Sign: Chiyoda Diner

THE CAFE TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#77 Christmas Party!

WOW, DID YOU MAKE THESE PINCHOS, MOEMI-CHAN?

SHIRAGIKU-SAN TAUGHT ME!

OH, NICE.

PIN-CHOS!!

SIT DOWN WHEN YOU'RE EATING, PLEASE.

CLATTER

...

SHE REALLY GOT US, DIDN'T SHE? SNEAKILY GRABBING THE SPOT NEXT TO HAYATO-KUN.

SHIRAGIKU'S ALWAYS SNEAKY.

もぐもぐ CHEW CHEW

OKAY.

HERE YOU GO, HAYATO-KUN.

WE HAVE CAKE FOR DESSERT, TOO.

OH, THANKS.

HERE, KIKU-CHAN, HAVE SOME CHAM-PAGNE!

...TAKE THEM OUT ONE BY ONE!!

BUT ALL OF US TRYING TO TAKE EACH OTHER OUT AT THE SAME TIME WOULDN'T DO ANY GOOD.

SO WHAT I'LL DO IS...

I FEEL LIKE I FALL ASLEEP PRETTY EASILY WHEN I DRINK.

BUT I THINK I'LL PASS TODAY.

*A carbonated Japanese party drink made as a non-alcoholic alternative to champagne, for families and office parties.

DON'T WORRY! THIS IS JUST CHANMERY*.

OH, REALLY?

SO SHE'S SAYING THAT THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE SLEEPING...

THIS GIRL... SHE'S SERI-OUS ABOUT THIS!!

IT IS THE REAL THING...

AND WITH THIS, THAT'S ONE PERSON OUT!!

WOW...

...IT SMELLS JUST LIKE THE REAL THING!

STARE

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, YOU STUPID CAT?!

AH!

SPRING

OH...HEY, SACHIKO!

TWITCH

CLATTER

WHAT?

WELL THAT FAILED...I GUESS I'LL START WITH THIS ONE INSTEAD.

AH... I'M SORRY, I'LL WIPE IT UP RIGHT AWAY!

HEY, YOUR CHANMERY'S SPILLED EVERYWHERE, SHIRAGIKU.

I HEARD THAT SOME-TIMES...*THEY* COME OUT.

THIS WHOLE AREA USED TO BE A GRAVE SITE...

HEY, AKANE-CHAN, DID YOU KNOW?

TEE HEE...

NOW YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO THINK ABOUT HAYATO-KUN AT ALL.

...

NO WAY...

ズル
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
ズル

カリ
CLATTER

SHE USED IT TO HER ADVAN-TAGE!!

SHIVER
カタ

SHIVER
カタ

SHIVER

SHE'S LYING, THERE ARE NO GRAVES HERE.

カ〃
ワッ
SLUMP

...FOR USING UNFAIR TACTICS ...

I GUESS I GOT PUN-ISHED...

RIGHT...

SORRY.

HEY, RIHO, DON'T TELL SCARY STORIES AT CHRISTMAS.

OKAY, IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE!!

TODAY, WE'VE PUT NUMBERS ON ALL OF THE GIFTS THAT EVERYONE PREPARED IN ADVANCE.

SO WE'LL TAKE TURNS TO DRAW A NUMBER FROM THIS BOX TO DETERMINE WHO GETS WHICH GIFT!!

1

2

3

4

5

LET'S HAVE OUKA-CHAN PICK FIRST, SINCE SHE WORKED SO HARD ON THE DECORATIONS TODAY!!

YAY, DECORATIONS!!

GO, BRAIDS!!

WHAT, ARE YOU SURE?

OKAY, HERE I GO..

OH... THAT'S MINE.

WHAT ...?

WOW, WHOSE IS IT?!

1

NUMBER ONE!!

A WHOPPING THREE FREE FAMILIA COFFEE COUPONS!

...

I'LL BREW YOU MY BEST, MOST DELICIOUS COFFEE!

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT FOR?!

SMACK

I DON'T NEED THESE!!

I'LL JUST GET AKANE-CHAN TO BREW SOME FOR ME!!

ONLY THREE COUPONS?! YOU'RE SO STINGY!!

SUCH BLATANT FLIRTING...

I KNEW SHE WAS THE FAVORITE.

WHAT A CLASSIC DYNAMIC!

...

NUMBER TEN.

YOU'RE UP NEXT, MISTER OWNER!

HUH? ME?

WHAT? I ALREADY HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

AH! THAT'S MINE!!

...?

RUSTLE RUSTLE

WHAT ON EARTH DID YOU BUY?

IT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN USE ON YOUR OWN OR WITH SOMEONE ELSE.

DON'T SAY THAT, IT'S A VERY VERSATILE GIFT, YOU KNOW?

MURMUR

#11

IT'S AN ELECTRIC VIBR*TOR!

WHAT HAVE YOU...?

AH...

WH...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, I COULD USE IT ON MY OWN?!

OH, IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE UPSET ABOUT?

FROM A FUJOSHI'S POINT OF VIEW, I THINK IT'S A GREAT IDEA!!

'CAUSE IT'S A VIBR*TOR?

THIS IS NO TIME FOR A STUPID PUN.

HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO STICK IT TO HER?

...

AH...

HEY!

AS IF I NEED SOMETHING LIKE THIS!!

NOOOO!!
NOOOO!!

PROD

PROD

I'LL GIVE IT TO OUKA-CHAN, THEN!

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, OUKA-CHAN?! ANSWER ME!!

YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR THIS TIME!!

...SORRY.

SURE.

HAYATO-KUN...

SORRY, BUT COULD YOU GO AND GET SOME WATER FROM THE KITCHEN?

ARE YOU OKAY? HAYATO-KUN'S JUST GONE TO GET SOME WATER.

ISN'T THAT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DIE?

AH!!

I JUST SAW MY WHOLE LIFE FLASH BEFORE MY EYES!

HERE.

I BROUGHT THE WATER.

WHY DID YOU ALL START UNDRESSING WHEN YOU KNEW I WAS COMING BACK?!

WELL, AMI-CHAN AND TINA-CHAN...

ANOTHER TORNADO SPIN?!

THIS ONE WAS A MARK 100 TORNADO SPIN, HAYACCHI!!

I DON'T CARE!!

千代田食堂

P

WOW...

LOOK! IT'S SNOWING!

NOW IT REALLY FEELS LIKE CHRISTMAS!

WELL... MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST START OVER.

THAT WAS MOSTLY *YOUR* FAULT THOUGH, WASN'T IT?

BUT YOU STILL HAVEN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH HAYATO-KUN AT ALL, HAVE YOU?

SERIOUSLY, YOU TOTALLY MESSED UP OUR PLANS.

AH... COMING!

SHIRAGIKU, WE'RE GOING HOME!

OH... HAYATO-KUN?

MM?

I GUESS, BUT I WAS THE ONE WHO DID THE COOKING, SO I SHOULD STAY AND HELP.

YOU SHOULD LEAVE THE DISH-WASHING TO THE GIRLS HERE.

YOU'RE SO DILIGENT.

カチャ
CLACK
HEY, WAIT FOR ME!
WHAT WERE YOU DOING, KIKU-CHAN?
OH, JUST WASHING DISHES AND THINGS.
YOU WORK SO HARD!